

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

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UNCLAS CANBERRA 4963

EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: OEXC, AS.

SUBJ: FY'75 IV PROGRAM.

1. POST SELECTION COMMITTEE MET YESTERDAY AND DECIDED ON IVP NOMINEES FOR FY'75 PROGRAM. ALL PAPERS WILL BE POUCHED SHORTLY.

2. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF TENSE AND UNCERTAIN SITUATION IN THE NATIONAL PARLIAMENT DESCRIBED IN NUMEROUS RECENT TELEGRAMS, TWO OF OUR NOMINEES, ONE A LIBERAL MEMBER PARLIAMENT, ONE THE PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS SPOKESMEN, MUST DEPART IMMEDIATELY AFTER JOINT SITTING OF PARLIAMENT WHICH EXPECTED TO END ABOUT AUGUST 8 IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN GRANT PROGRAM AND STILL RETURN AUSTRALIA TO MAKE RESUMPTION OF PARLIAMENT FOR ALL-IMPORT BUDGET DEBATES EXPECTED SEPTEMBER 17.

3. THE TWO, WHO ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO OUR PROGRAM HERE, ARE (1) MR. DON CHIPP, MEMBER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, (LIB), FORMER MINISTER FOR NAVY, MINISTER FOR TOURISM, MINISTER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, PRESENTLY SHADOW MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND HEALTH AND WELFARE, AND OBVIOUSLY A VERY TOP FIGURE IN LIBERAL PARTY AT NATIONAL LEVEL. (2) MR. ERIC J. WALSH, PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS SPOKESMAN.

4. SEPTELS ON BOTH, WITH FURTHER BIODATA AND PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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SUGGESTIONS FORTHCOMING.

5. REALIZE CROWDED PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE FOR GRANTEEES IN AUGUST, BUT ASK YOU APPRECIATE IMPORTANCE TO US OF THESE TWO NOMINEES ADD UNPRECEDENTED PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION HERE WHICH PERMITS THEM TRAVEL ONLY AT THIS TIME. DUE SHORT LEAD TIME, IF PROBLEMS YOUR END SUGGEST YOU DISCUSS WITH AMBASSADOR GREEN. APPRECIATE APPROVAL THESE GRANTS SOONEST.

6. CHIPPS PROGRAM INTERESTS: HEALTH SCHEMES, YOUTH PROBLEMS, DRUG CONTROL. OTHERS FOLLOW IN SEPTEL. NOMINATION IF FOR FULL GRANT.

7. WALSH'S INTERESTS: URBAN RENEWAL, URBAN TRANSPORT, PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES EXECUTIVE OFFICE, CONGRESS, AFL-CIO, OTHER UNIONS, VISIT NEWSPAPERS. HIS NOMINATION IS FOR TWO OR THREE PARTIAL GRANT AT TIME BEST SUITABLE TO DEPARTMENT BETWEEN AUGUST 9 AND SEPTEMBER 15. HE WILL PAY OWN INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUSTRALIA TO U.S. WEST COAST AND RETURN, WE TO PAY DOMESTIC TRANSPORT, PER DIEM.
HARROP

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